



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Farmers  
Home  
Administration

Washington  
D.C.  
20250

FmHA AN No. 1053 (1910)

August 1, 1984

SUBJECT: The Use of the Term "Character" in County Committee  
Rejection Letters

TO: All State Directors, Farmer Program Chiefs, District Directors,  
and County Supervisors

The County Office Advisory Team has brought to our attention that the term "character" is frequently used in County Committee rejection letters. Referring to an applicant's character in a rejection letter is often considered an insult and generates hostility. Therefore, you should discontinue the use of the term "character" in rejection letters.

The phrases in paragraph 4 on page 2 of FmHA Guide Letter No. 410-3 (Revision 3) (FmHA Instruction 1910-A), or similar wording, will be used when referring to an applicant's credit history or other traits that involve character.

*Harry E. Shuman*  
for CHARLES W. SHUMAN  
Administrator

EXPIRATION DATE: August 31, 1985

FILING INSTRUCTIONS: Preceding  
FmHA Instruction 1910-A



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